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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

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: VERHO et al.

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Examiner

: Zeman, Robert A.

Docket No. : 2530-120 Customer No. : 06449 Confirmation No. : 3149

<u>AMENDMENT</u>

Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the final Office Action dated May 25, 2006, Applicants submit the following response and amendments.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 8.